

1 Corinthians 12:7-11

Gifts Part 2: How do I get a Gift?

1 Corinthians 12:7-11 (CSB)

⁷A manifestation of the Spirit is given to each person for the common good: ⁸to one is given a message of wisdom through the Spirit, to another, a message of knowledge by the same Spirit, ⁹to another, faith by the same Spirit, to another, gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another, the performing of miracles, to another, prophecy, to another, distinguishing between spirits, to another, different kinds of tongues, to another, interpretation of tongues. ¹¹One and the same Spirit is active in all these, distributing to each person as he wills.

Qualifications for a Spiritual Gift

Let me share with you the list of qualifications to get a spiritual gift:

1. Be a believer.

End of list.

Receiving a spiritual gift is not something you earn. It is a gift that is given to believers by God Himself.

The Greek work for will/desire: Βούλομαι (Greek Dictionary) - a *resolved plan*, used particularly of the *immutable aspect of God's plan* – purposefully arranging *all physical circumstances*, which guarantees every scene of life works to His eternal purpose.

Gifts versus Fruit

Spiritual gifts and Spiritual fruit are different. Evidence of walking in the Spirit is producing fruit. Equipping for building up the body of Christ is a spiritual gift.

Fruit – singular. Galatians 5:22-23

Gifts – plural. Changes based on God's timing and purpose.

Each believer is given a “manifestation of the Spirit for the common good”.

The Greek word for “manifestation: Φανέρωσις (Greek Dictionary) – properly, illumine, make *manifest (visible)*; (figuratively) make plain, in *open* view; to become apparent (“graspable”). The idea is that God will bring to light a gift from the spirit that will be seen and experienced by fellow believers for their good.

Different gifts Same Spirit

...why that matters...

Common Good

The Greek word for “common good”: Συμφέρω (Greek Dictionary) – properly, combine in a way that brings a profit (gain), especially by a “*concurrency* of circumstances” that results in benefit or advancement.

Gifts are given to advance the church body...not any one particular individual. Thus, there can't be a hierarchy of believers. Yes, different gifts, different responsibilities...equal qualifications, equal value.

1 Cointhians 12:12-26

The church needs all the parts. And all the parts need the church. You are missing out and hurting the church when you are not faithful to use your spiritual gift for the building up of others.